



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER

www.onalaskachurchofgod.com



JUNE, 2007

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD: 3RD. AVE. & HWY. 508 ONALASKA, WASHINGTON 98570

AM I A FIREMAN YET?

In Phoenix, Arizona, a 26-year-old mother stared down at her 6 year old son, who was dying of terminal leukemia.

Although her heart was filled with sadness, she also had a strong feeling of determination. Like any parent, she wanted her son to grow up & fulfill all his dreams, now that was no longer possible. The leukemia would see to that. But she still wanted her son's dream to come true.

She took her son's hand and asked, "Billy, did you ever think about what you wanted to be once you grew up? Did you ever dream and wish what you would do with your life?"

Mommy, "I always wanted to be a fireman when I grew up."

Mom smiled back and said, "Let's see if we can make your wish come true."

Later that day she went to her local fire Department in Phoenix, Arizona, where she met Fireman Bob, who had a heart as big as Phoenix.

She explained her son's final wish and asked if it might be possible to give her 6 year-old son a ride around the block on a fire engine.

Fireman Bob said, "Look, we can do better than that. If you'll have your son ready at seven o'clock Wednesday morning, we'll make him an honorary Fireman for the whole day. He can come down to the fire station, eat with us, go out on all the fire calls, the whole nine yards!

And if you'll give us his sizes, we'll get a real fire uniform for him, with a real fire hat - not a toy -- one-with

the emblem of the Phoenix Fire Department on it, a yellow slicker like we wear and rubber boots." "They're all manufactured right here in Phoenix, so we can get them fast."

Three days later Fireman Bob picked up Billy, dressed him in his uniform and escorted him from his hospital bed to the waiting hook and ladder truck. Billy got to sit on the back of the truck and help steer it back to the fire station. He was in heaven.

There were three fire calls in Phoenix that day and Billy got to go out on all three calls.

He rode in the different fire engines, the Paramedic's van, and even the fire chief's car. He was also videotaped for the local news program.

Having his dream come true, with all the love and attention that was lavished upon him, so deeply touched Billy that he lived three months longer than any doctor thought possible.

One night all of his vital signs began to drop dramatically and the head nurse, who believed in the hospice concept - that no one should die alone, began to call the family members to the hospital.

Then she remembered the day Billy had spent as a Fireman, so she called the Fire Chief and asked if it would be possible to send a fireman in uniform to the hospital to be with



Billy as he made his transition.

The chief replied, "We can do better than that. We'll be there in five minutes. Will you please do me a favor? When you hear the sirens screaming and see the lights flashing, will you announce over the PA system that there is not a fire? It's the department coming to see one of its finest members one more time. And will you open the window to his room?"

About five minutes later a hook and ladder truck arrived at the hospital and extended its ladder up to Billy's third floor open window, 5 firefighters climbed up the ladder into Billy's room.

With his mother's permission, they hugged him and held him and told him how much they LOVED him.

With his dying breath, Billy looked up at the fire chief and said, "Chief am I really a fireman now?"

"Billy, you are, and the Head Chief, Jesus, is holding your hand," the chief said. With those words, Billy smiled and said, "I know, He's been holding my hand all day, and the angels have been singing."

He closed his eyes one last time.

Jim Sparks

"Billy" is actually 7-year-old Frank Salazar (his family called him "Bopsy") and he was the first child to be helped by the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization that fulfills the wishes of children with life-threatening illness. The story is from 1981.

Make-A-Wish contacted firefighter Bob Walp who was well known to children in Phoenix as "Fireman Bob" on the popular "Wallace and Ladmo" television program. Bopsy was welcomed to a fire station where a custom-made uniform was waiting for him complete with a yellow helmet and coat. He did not go to any fire scenes that day, but did ride in the fire truck and got to use a fire hose. The day ended with his being given a firefighter badge.

10 LITTLE CHRISTIANS

10 Little Christians standing in line
 1 disliked the preacher, then there were 9
 9 little Christians stayed up very late
 1 overslept Sunday, then there were 8
 8 little Christians on their way to Heaven
 1 took the low road and then there were 7
 7 little Christians chirping like chicks
 1 disliked the music, then there were 6
 6 little Christians seemed very much alive
 but one lost his interest then there was 5
 5 little Christians pulling for Heaven's Shore
 but one stopped to rest, then there were 4
 4 little Christians each busy as a bee
 but one got his feelings hurt, then there were 3
 3 little Christians knew not what to do
 1 joined the sporty crowd, then there were 2
 2 little Christians, our rhyme is nearly done
 differed with each other, then there was 1
 1 little Christian can't do much 'tis true;
 but brought his friend to Bible study and then there were 2
 2 earnest Christians, each won one more
 that doubled the number, then there were 4
 4 sincere Christians worked early and late
 each won another then there were 8
 8 splendid Christians if they

doubled as before
 In just a few Sundays, we'd have 1,024
 In this little jingle, there is a lesson true,
 You belong, either to the building-or to the wrecking-crew!
 ♦ Received from Joe & Freda Downs

willingly gave of their own blood so an Iraqi rebel (who had been wounded while plotting their harm) could have another shot at life. They showed him—their enemy—much more than mercy and grace. They showed him love.
 ♦ Received from Kathleen Mulkins

A SOLDIERS LOVE

from Preaching Today's

Ever have those moments when God interrupts you? When he reaches down and shakes your face and silences you?

I do. I had one of those moments a couple weeks ago, when I read a segment of an NBC News broadcast about the emergency military triage facilities in Iraq. This piece (which aired March 1) shared the story of two Iraqi insurgents being treated at Camp Speicher. A U.S. helicopter had fired on them as they were placing an explosive device on a nearby road, and one of the men was on the brink of death. He needed 30 pints of blood if he was going to live. Since the base's supply of blood was inadequate, a call went out for volunteer donors.



The call goes out at the base for volunteer blood donors, and within minutes dozens of soldiers line up. Brian Suam is at the head of the line. He says it doesn't matter that his blood might be used for insurgents. "A human life is a human life, sir," Suam says.

And this is what silences me: dozens of G.I.'s responded. Dozens of American soldiers

The above story reminds me of someone else one who was willing to give His blood to save the very souls of those who hated Him.

1 Peter 1:18-19 (KJV)

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

WILLING TO DIE:

Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you:

- 1. Jesus Christ**
- 2. The American G. I.**

One died for your soul, the other for your freedom.

♦ Received from David Chilson

All eyes were on the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle. They reached the altar and the waiting groom; the bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand. The guests in the front pews responded with ripples of laughter. Even the priest smiled broadly. As her father gave her away in marriage, the bride gave him back his credit card.



ALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

~
EVENING SING & PRAISE SERVICE
6:00 PM

~
WEDNESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY
7:00 PM

~
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
JUNE 1&2**

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

~
SATURDAY, JUNE 9

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
10:00 AM

~
FRIDAY, JUNE 15

GAME NIGHT
6:30 PM

~
SATURDAY, JUNE 16

MEN'S BREAKFAST
7:00 AM

~
SUNDAY, JUNE 17

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

~
YOUTH ACTIVITIES

MOVIE NIGHT
"FACING THE GIANTS"
FRIDAY, JUNE 8
6:00 PM

~
SATURDAY, JUNE 9
CAR WASH & BAKE SALE
AT BRENDA'S
10:00 AM—3:00 PM

CAMPING TRIP
AT
MT. ST. HELENS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
JUNE 29 & 30

~
COMMUNITY EVENTS

VBS
@
COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN
MONDAY—FRIDAY
JUNE 18-22

~
SENIORS ON THE GO
WEDNESDAY
JUNE 20
12:00 NOON

~
AMERICAN LEGION
THURSDAY
JUNE 21
7:00 PM

NO TAXES DUE

A tax assessor came one day to a poor Christian to determine the amount of taxes he would have to pay. The following con-

versation took place:

"What property do you possess?" asked the assessor.
"I am a very wealthy man," replied the Christian.
"List your possessions, please," the assessor instructed.
The Christian said:
"First, I have everlasting life, **John 3:16**
Second, I have a mansion in heaven, **John 14:2**
Third, I have peace that passes all understanding, **Philippians 4:7**
Fourth, I have joy unspeakable, **1 Peter 1:8**
Fifth, I have divine love which never fails, **1 Corinthians 13:8**
Sixth, I have a faithful wife, **Proverbs 31:10**
Seventh, I have healthy, happy obedient children! **Exodus 20:12**
Eighth, I have true, loyal friends, **Proverbs 18:24**
Ninth, I have songs in the night, **Psalms 42:8**
Tenth, I have a crown of life, **James 1:12**"
The tax assessor closed his book, and said, "Truly you are a very rich man, but your property is not subject to taxation."

TREASURER'S REPORT



Treasurer's Report

The Church Council voted at the last Council meeting to keep you informed as how we are doing in regards to meeting our budget. We will be placing in the Newsletter each month the running total of both how much we have received in the General

Fund and how much we have spent. It is through the General Fund that we pay the expenses that keep the doors of the church open.

Expenses: November 1, 2006—May 20, 2007 \$ **30,580.21**
Tithes and Offerings: November 1, 2006—May 20, 2007 \$ **27,253.65**

A loss of **<\$ 3,326.56>**



FROM *the* CHAIRPERSON

This year your Church Council has undertaken the difficult process of updating all of the legal instruments of the church in order to protect the congregation and the buildings owned by the congregation.

Over the years, attitudes change, rules change, legal requirements change; insurance policies give with one hand and take away with the other. It is difficult to keep ahead of all the negative things that we are working to prevent and ask you bear with us in this attempt to protect you.

We are currently balancing on a frail financial abyss and cannot continue to keep our obligations to the Pastor, maintain the buildings, and pay the normal monthly bills at the current rate contributions are being made. Most of us are on fixed incomes and probably stretched to the limit of our abilities. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions that might help us increase our monthly income. We may all have to sweep the back roads for pop cans!

Our annual Rummage & Bake sale is coming up on June 1 and 2. Please rummage through your unneeded belongings that are in good condition to help make the sale a success. We need cookies, cakes and pies as well to sell.

Bless You All,
Susan Olsen

THE YEAR 1907

Here are some of the U.S. Statistics for the Year 1907:

The average life expectancy in the U.S. Was 47 years old.

Only 14 percent of the homes in the U.S. had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.

There were only 8,000 cars in the U.S., and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California

With a mere 1.4 million people, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower!

The average wage in the U.S. Was 22 Cents per hour. The average U.S. Worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year. A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year; a dentist made \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian \$1,500 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births in the U.S. Took place at HOME.

Ninety percent of all U.S. Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND the government as

"substandard."

Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen. Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Canada passed a law that prohibited poor people from entering into their country for any reason.

Five leading causes of death in the U.S. Were:

1. Pneumonia and influenza
2. Tuberculosis
3. Diarrhea
4. Heart disease
5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars.

Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii, and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.

The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was only 30!

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and ice tea hadn't

been invented yet.

There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.

Two out of every 10 U.S. Adults couldn't read or write.

Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from High school

There were about 230 reported Murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A.!

Received from Ruth Bushnell



Q
U
I
Z



Once again my sister, Katie, from Scottsdale, Arizona was the only one to come up with the correct answer to last month's quiz.

The man who did the killing was, Joab who killed; Abner, Absalom and Amasa. The stories are found in the 2nd book of Samuel, chapters 3:27 (the death of Abner); 8:14 (the death of Absalom) & 20:10 (the death of Amasa).

*There are many stories found
within the Book,
And all you have to do is to take
the time to look.
Many things we may not understand,
Like why would a man build his
house upon the sand.
How about the boy who gave his
lunch,
And Jesus with it feed a bunch.
Or about the woman who had
only a little meal,
But fed the prophet for many a
meal.*

*Then there is the story about that
whale
And I tell you the truth it isn't no
tall tale.
He got so hungry he ate a man,
Then spit him up upon the sand.
Do you remember the walls that
fell
When the army only marched
And gave a yell.
I know these stories are hard to
believe
But when you do the truth you'll
receive.*

*I know my poetry is getting pretty
bad
And I hope for me your felling sad.
If you want me to do better next
time.
Pray that God will teach me how to
rhyme.*

*There is only three of us you know,
That neither, brother, sister, father
or mother have we to show.
Tell us our names and you will win.
A candy bar and not a Slim Jim.*

**FOR ALL
BASEBALL FANS**

Two 90 year old men, Moe and Joe, have been friends all of their lives.

When it's clear that Joe is dying, Moe visits him every day. One day



minor league ball together for so many years. Please do me one favor, when you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's baseball there."

Joe looks up at Moe from his death bed, "Moe, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favor for you.

Shortly after that, Joe passes on. At midnight a couple of nights later, Moe is awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to him, "Moe--Moe."

"Who is it?" asks Moe sitting up suddenly. "Who is it?"

"Moe--it's me, Joe."

"You're not Joe. Joe just died."

"I'm telling you, it's me, Joe," in-

sists the voice."

"Joe! Where are you?"

"In heaven", replies Joe. "I have some really good news and a little bad news."

"Tell me the good news first," says Moe.

"The good news," Joe says, "is that there's baseball in heaven. Better yet, all of our old buddies who died before us are here, too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always spring time and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play baseball all we want, and we never get tired."

"That's fantastic," says Moe. "It's beyond my wildest dreams! So what's the bad news?"

"You're starting pitcher Tuesday"

◆ Received from Joe Downs

SIMPLY AMAZING

One night a wife found her husband standing over their baby's crib.

Silently she watched him. As he stood looking down at the sleeping infant,



she saw on his face a mixture of emotions: disbelief, doubt, delight, amazement, enchantment, skepticism.

Touched by this unusual display and the deep emotions it aroused, with eyes glistening she slipped her arm around her husband.

"A penny for your thoughts," she said.

"It's amazing!" he replied. "I just can't see how anybody can make a crib like that for only \$46.50."

◆ Received from Joe Downs